

What is claimed is:

1. An information recording apparatus comprising:

information recording means for recording information in a first recording medium;

5 operating means for operating unloading of said first recording medium including said information recorded by said information recording means;

unloading means for unloading said first recording medium based on operation of said operation means; and

10 fee charging means for charging when said first recording medium is unloaded by said unloading means.

2. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising information receiving means for receiving transmitted
15 information; wherein

said information recording means records information received by said information receiving means into said first recording medium.

3. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising information storage means for storing information in an
20 information storage; wherein

said information recording means records information stored in said information storage by said information storage means, into said first recording medium.

25 4. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising information reproducing means for reproducing information from a second recording medium; wherein

30 said information recording means records information reproduced by said information reproducing means into said first recording medium.

5. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising notifying means for notifying charging of fee when unloading operation is performed through said operating means.

35 6. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising selecting means for selecting quality of said information to be

stored in said first recording medium by said information recording means;
wherein

said fee charging means changes the amount of charge according to
the quality selected through said selecting means.

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7. The information recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the
quality of said information is based on image quality.

8. The information recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the
10 quality of said information is based on broadcasting system.

9. The information recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the
quality of said information is based on number of languages.

10. The information recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the
15 quality of said information is based on audio format.

11. The information recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the
quality of said information is based on region code.

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12. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1 further
comprising first selection means for selecting recording of a commercial
message along with said information, in said first recording medium; wherein

said fee charging means reduces the amount of charge when
25 recording of said commercial message is selected by said first selection
means.

13. The information recording apparatus according to claim 12 further
comprising a second selection means for selecting size of said commercial
30 message to be recorded in said first recording medium; wherein

said fee charging means changes the amount of reduction of charge
according to the size of said commercial message selected by said second
selection means.

14. The information recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said
35 fee charging means changes the amount of charge according to type of said
first recording medium.

15. A charging method for charging a fee related to an information recording apparatus recording information in a first recording medium and unloading said first recording medium based on an unloading operation, the fee charging method comprising the step of charging when unloading of said first recording medium is performed.

16. The fee charging method according to claim 15, wherein information to be recorded in said first recording medium comprises transmitted information.

17. The fee charging method according to claim 15, wherein information to be recorded in said first recording medium comprises information stored in an information storage.

18. The fee charging method according to claim 15, wherein information to be recorded in said first recording medium comprises information reproduced by a second recording medium.

19. The fee charging method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of notifying charging operation when said unloading operation is performed.

20. The fee charging method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of optionally selecting quality of said information to be recorded in said first recording medium, wherein an amount of charge is changed according to said quality of said information recorded in said first recording medium.

21. The fee charging method according to claim 20, wherein quality of said information is based on quality of image.

22. The fee charging method according to claim 20, wherein quality of said information is based on broadcasting system.

23. The fee charging method according to claim 20, wherein quality of said information is based on number of languages.

24. The fee charging method according to claim 20, wherein quality of said information is based on audio format.

25. The fee charging method according to claim 20, wherein quality of said
5 information is based on region code.

26. The fee charging method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of optionally selecting recording a commercial message together with said information to be recorded in said first recording medium; wherein
10 an amount of said fee is reduced when said commercial message is recorded together with said information to be recorded in said first recording medium.

27. The fee charging method according to claim 26, further comprising the step of optionally selecting size of said commercial message to be recorded in said first recording medium; wherein
15 an amount of reduction of fee is changed according to the size of said commercial message recorded in said first recording medium.

28. The fee charging method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of changing an amount of charge according to a type of said first recording medium.

29. An information recording apparatus comprising:
25 information storage means for storing information in an information storage;

information recording means for recording in a first recording medium information stored in said information storage through said information storage means;

30 operating means for performing unloading operation of said first recording medium having said information recorded by said information recording means;

unloading means for unloading said first recording medium based on operation of said operating means;

35 fee charging means for performing:

a first charging when said information is stored in said information storage means through said information storage means;

and

a second charging when unloading said first recording medium through said unloading means.

- 5 30. The information recording apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising information receiving means for receiving transmitted information; wherein

said information storage means stores information received by said information receiving means in said information storage means.

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31. The information recording apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising information reproducing means for reproducing information from a second recording medium; wherein

15 said information storage means stores in said information storage means information reproduced by said information reproducing means.

32. The information recording apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising notifying means for notifying charge of fee when said unloading operation is performed through said operating means.

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33. A charging method for charging a fee related to an information recording apparatus storing information in an information storage, recording said information stored in said information storage into a first recording medium and unloading said first recording medium based on an unloading operation, the charging method comprising the step of

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performing first charging when said information is stored in said information storage, and second charging when said first recording medium is unloaded.

- 30 34. The fee charging method according to claim 33, wherein information stored in said information storage is transmitted information.

- 35 35. The fee charging method according to claim 33, wherein information stored in said information storage is information reproduced through a second recording medium.

36. The fee charging method according to claim 33, further comprising the

step of notifying charging of fee when unloading operation is performed.